S.H.I.E.L.D.
12¢
IND.
12
MAY
NICK FURY, AGENT OF...
SHIELD
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
HELL HATH NO FURY!
SMITH

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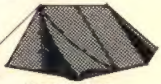
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PICK THE PRIZES you'd like to have! Then join the Olympic Sales Club and see how easy it is to get these and other Famous Name Prizes! Or, keep BIG CASH PROFITS if you'd rather, $1.00 for every box you sell! You get prizes or profits AT ABSOLUTELY NO COST TO YOU.

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HELL HATH NO FURY

EDITOR: STAN LEE • WRITER: STEVE PARKHOUSE • PENCILLER: BARRY SMITH • INKED BY: BARRY SMITH SID GREENE • LETTERER: I. WATANABE

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EXPLOSION! SHREDDING THE NIGHT WITH CRIMSON FLAME... A MAN WHO DEALS IN DEATH SIGHTS HIS ELUSIVE QUARRY ...AND...
STUN BLASTS! THEY'VE FOUND ME AGAIN!
SKAK!
MUST BE SOME KINDA WARNING SHOTS!
SOMEBODY OUGHTTA TELL 'EM THAT IN THIS GAME YOU NEVER LET A GUY OFF THE HOOK!
FALLOU
BUT NEVER!
2

BUT...SCANT YARDS AWAY...THE ANONYMOUS ASSAILANTS PRESS ON... RELENTLESS IN THEIR PURSUIT...
SILENTLY...WE MUST GET CLOSE ENOUGH FOR THE STUN-GUNS TO HAVE AN EFFECT!
IF HE SLIPS THROUGH OUR CIRCLE NOW, WE'VE LOST HIM FOR GOOD!
A FAINT RATTLE...COMIN' FROM BEHIND ME!
I WAS RIGHT! TWO MORE OF 'EM COMIN' DOWN THE FIRE ESCAPE!
TOO CLOSE FOR THE SONAR BEAM!
I'LL TRY A LITTLE TOUCH OF TONY STARK'S REPULSOR RAYS!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

LOOK, FELLOWS!

You Can Win Your Choice of Neat Prizes FREE Regularly

PLUS AS MUCH AS $1.00 to $5.00 CASH EVERY WEEK!

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Papers sent only to boys in Continental U. S.

GRIT PUBLISHING CO.,
Williamsport, Pa., 17701

PLEASE PRINT
Dept. MC-49

Send my first bundle of papers, selling helps and prize offers.

Name_____

Are You a Boy?_____ Age_____ Date Born_____ Year_____

In Care of_____

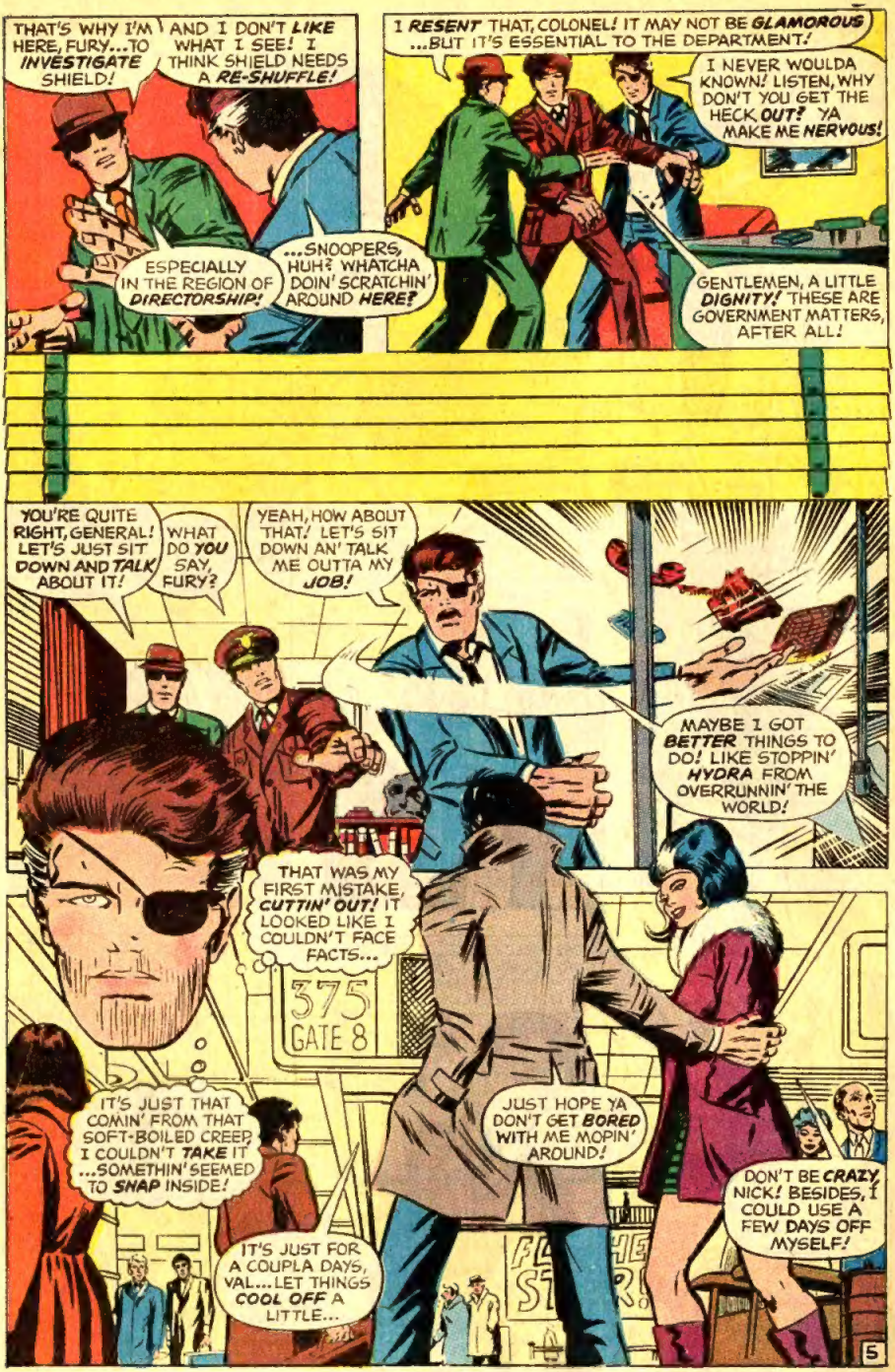
Street and No._____ R.F.D._____

Post Office_____ State_____

Zip Code No._____

Print Your Last Name Plainly Here

SHIELD MUST BE GETTIN' SOFT! BACK IN THE OLD DAYS, OUR BOYS COULDA HANDLED AN ARMY!
THE OLD DAYS... TIME'S LEAVIN' YOU BEHIND, FURY... THE OLD DAYS ARE FOR OLD MEN!
PAUSING REFLECTIVELY, FURY'S MIND WANDERS OVER THE EVENTS OF THE PAST FEW DAYS ...EVENTS THAT STARTED WITH JUST ONE WORD... SUSPICION! THE MOVING FINGER POINTS... AND HAVING MARKED ...MOVES ON... LEAVING IN ITS WAKE, NICK FURY... MARKED MAN!
YET WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THEN OF THE MESS I'D BE IN NOW? I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT ALL STARTED JUST A FEW DAYS AGO...
IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL, FURY... I JUST SUGGESTED MAYBE WE NEED A YOUNGER MAN FOR THE JOB...
THERE'S NO NEED TO GET JUMPY... I MEAN, WE'RE ALL EXPENDABLE, YOU KNOW...
THAT'S NOT THE WAY I READ IT, MISTER...
IF YOU'RE SAYIN' YOU DON'T LIKE THE WAY I RUN THINGS AROUND HERE...
NOW HOLD ON, COLONEL... I'M SURE RICKARD DIDN'T COME HERE FROM INTELLIGENCE JUST TO PULL SHIELD APART!
BESIDES, IF HE HAS A VALID POINT, IT'S HIS RIGHT TO SPEAK UP!
A VALID POINT! YOU SIDIN' WITH HIM ALREADY?
IF YOU WASHINGTON JOKERS HAD ANY IDEA OF WHAT IT TAKES TO RUN AN OUTFIT LIKE SHIELD...
THEN I'D BACK DOWN TO A VALID POINT! IF IT WUZ VALID... WHICH IT AIN'T!
4


THAT'S WHY I'M HERE, FURY...TO INVESTIGATE SHIELD!
AND I DON'T LIKE WHAT I SEE! I THINK SHIELD NEEDS A RE-SHUFFLE!
ESPECIALLY IN THE REGION OF DIRECTORSHIP!
...SNOOPERS, HUH? WHATCHA DOIN' SCRATCHIN' AROUND HERE?
I RESENT THAT, COLONEL! IT MAY NOT BE GLAMOROUS ...BUT IT'S ESSENTIAL TO THE DEPARTMENT!
I NEVER WOULDA KNOWN! LISTEN, WHY DON'T YOU GET THE HECK OUT? YA MAKE ME NERVOUS!
GENTLEMEN, A LITTLE DIGNITY! THESE ARE GOVERNMENT MATTERS, AFTER ALL!
YOU'RE QUITE RIGHT, GENERAL! LET'S JUST SIT DOWN AND TALK ABOUT IT!
WHAT DO YOU SAY, FURY?
YEAH, HOW ABOUT THAT! LET'S SIT DOWN AN' TALK ME OUTTA MY JOB!
MAYBE I GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO! LIKE STOPPIN' HYDRA FROM OVERRUNNIN' THE WORLD!
THAT WAS MY FIRST MISTAKE, CUTTIN' OUT! IT LOOKED LIKE I COULDN'T FACE FACTS...
375 GATE 8
IT'S JUST THAT COMIN' FROM THAT SOFT-BOILED CREEP, I COULDN'T TAKE IT ...SOMETHIN' SEEMED TO SNAP INSIDE!
IT'S JUST FOR A COUPLA DAYS, VAL...LET THINGS COOL OFF A LITTLE...
JUST HOPE YA DON'T GET BORED WITH ME MOPIN' AROUND!
DON'T BE CRAZY, NICK! BESIDES, I COULD USE A FEW DAYS OFF MYSELF!
5

"THEN THE SHOCK OF SEEING THOSE TWO GOONS WAITIN' FOR US WHEN WE GOT BACK..."
COLONEL FURY... WE HAVE SPECIAL ORDERS TO TAKE YOU TO SHIELD H.Q. UNDER GUARD!
THESE ORDERS OVERRIDE ANY YOU MAY GIVE TO THE CONTRARY...IF YOU'LL COME WITH US, PLEASE!
LISTEN, WHAT IS ALL THIS? WHERE ARE YOU TAKING THE CONTESSA?
YOU'D BETTER TALK FAST, MISTER! YOU AIN'T HEARD THE LAST OF THIS!
JUST STAY QUIET, COLONEL! YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO TALK WHEN WE GET BACK TO H.Q.!
YOU'RE GETTING CARELESS, FURY! THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU! DISAPPEARING WITHOUT WORD, NO WITNESSES, NO ALIBIS ...AND NOW THESE...
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? ARE YOU ENTERING YOUR SECOND CHILDHOOD?
WHAT ARE YOU YAKKIN' ABOUT? LEMME SEE THOSE!
PHOTOGRAPHS....REPORTS FROM INTELLIGENCE IN LONDON! EVIDENCE OF YOU ASSOCIATING WITH KNOWN ENEMY AGENT CONTACTS!
A MAN OF YOUR EXPERIENCE, FURY...HOW COULD YOU HOPE TO GET AWAY WITH IT?!
YES...TELL US, FURY! HOW? BECAUSE YOU'RE TOP MAN IN SHIELD?
THAT DOESN'T PROTECT YOU...IT MAKES YOU MORE VULNERABLE!
SO WHAT WAS IT? A BETTER OFFER FROM THE OTHER SIDE? TELL US FURY! WE'RE WAITING!
YOU CREEP! WHAT ARE YOU TRYIN' TA PULL? I DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE THE COUNTRY!
ASK THE CONTESSA... SHE WAS WITH ME!
THAT'S NOT WHAT SHE TOLD US SHE SAW YOU OFF...AND MET YOU WHEN YOU CAME BACK!
SHE DIDN'T GO ANYWHERE... WITH ANYONE! WHY ARE YOU LYIN', FURY? WHY?
6

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

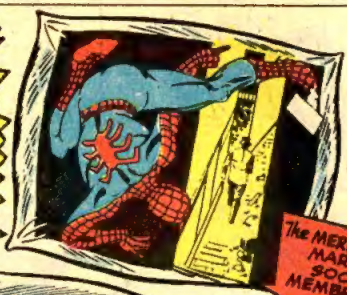
TWO MORE TRIUMPHS FOR MARVEL...!

Now on SALE!

MARVEL
COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS
25¢
28
APR
F.F. vs. the AVENGERS!
EXCEPT TO ADD THE IRON MAN AND DR. STRANGE ARE SO HARD TO... FOR THE MARVEL REBELLION!

IT'S BRAND NEW!!

MARVEL'S SWINGIN' INFLATABLE PLASTIC PILLOWS!



The MERRY MARVEL MARCHING SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP KIT!

INTRODUCING THE LATEST, MOST ORIGINAL MARVEL MERCHANDISING MASTERPIECES EVER---THREE DIMENSIONAL SUPER-HERO PLASTIC PILLOWS THAT CAN HOLD MORE WEIGHT THAN YOU CAN SHAKE A FORBUSH AT! YOU CAN BANG 'EM! TOSS 'EM! EVEN LET 'EM **HANG LOOSE** ON THE WALL! ...EITHER **SPIDER-MAN** OR **THOR**, IN FULL COLOR YET!

ALL NEW MEMBERSHIP KIT: AN OFFICIAL RECORDING OF M.M.M.S. SONG... SWINGIN' STICKERS OF EIGHT MARVEL HEROES ...A NUTTY NEW NOTE PAD...A MARVEL MINI-BOOK...A MARVEL PENCIL...AN M.M.M.S. CERTIFICATE...YOUR OWN MEMBERSHIP CARD... ALL FOR ONLY $1.00

PRESENT MEMBERS: SEND US YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND WE'LL SEND YOU NEW KIT FOR 75¢

$1.50 PLUS 15¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING

I'D LIKE ____ SPIDER-MAN PILLOWS.
I'D LIKE ____ THOR PILLOWS.
TOTAL→

SEND TO:
MARVEL COMICS GROUP, DEPT. PP
625 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. N.Y. 10022

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP _____

SEND NO CASH! CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY.

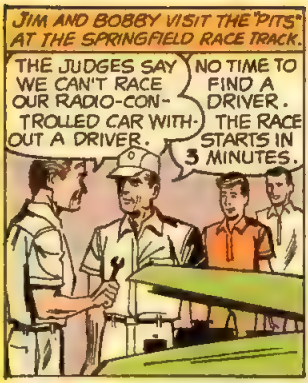
OKAY, MADMEN---HERE'S MY HARD-EARNED CASH, WHICH I'M SENDING YOU AT:
M.M.M.S. MARVEL COMICS GROUP DEPT A.J.
625 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. N.Y. 10022

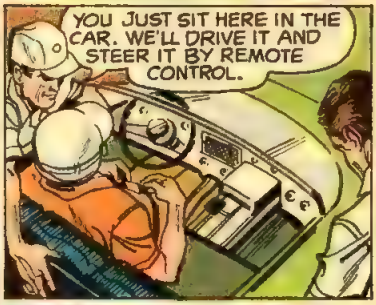
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP _____

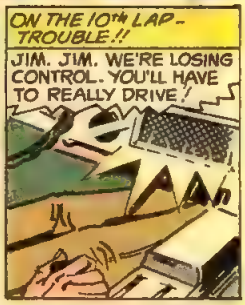
PLEASE: SEND NO CASH! CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY!

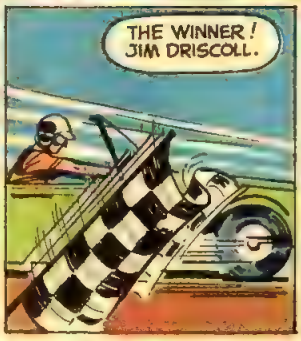
ADD 20¢ EXTRA FOR EACH CANADIAN AND EUROPEAN ORDER! ALLOW 3 TO 4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY!

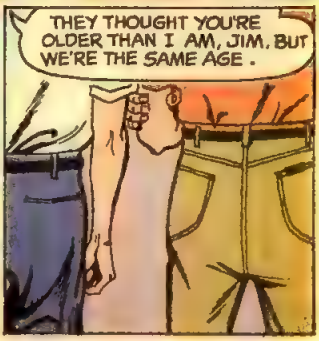
JIM DRISCOLL IN The Race to Danger


JIM AND BOBBY VISIT THE "PITS" AT THE SPRINGFIELD RACE TRACK.
THE JUDGES SAY WE CAN'T RACE OUR RADIO-CONTROLLED CAR WITHOUT A DRIVER.
NO TIME TO FIND A DRIVER. THE RACE STARTS IN 3 MINUTES.





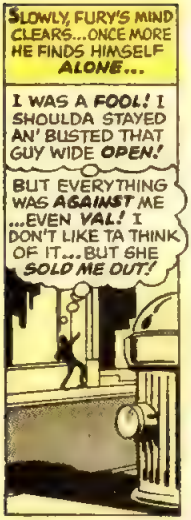




BOYS! ARE YOU OLD ENOUGH TO WEAR LEES? HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH GUYS WEAR LEE LEENS - HOW ABOUT YOU? IT'S TIME TO GET OUT OF KIDDY CLOTHES AND GET INTO LEE LEENS.
THEY'RE TOUGH!
THEY'RE TIGHT!

Lee Leens®: the grown-up pants

H. D. Lee Company, Inc., Dept. A, P. O. Box 440, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66201 ALSO AVAILABLE IN CANADA


SLOWLY, FURY'S MIND CLEARS...ONCE MORE HE FINDS HIMSELF ALONE...
I WAS A FOOL! I SHOULDA STAYED AN' BUSTED THAT GUY WIDE OPEN!
BUT EVERYTHING WAS AGAINST ME ...EVEN VAL! I DON'T LIKE TA THINK OF IT...BUT SHE SOLD ME OUT!

AND, AT THAT MOMENT, DEEP WITHIN THE HIDDEN SHIELD COMPLEX...
FURY'S BEEN ON THE RUN NOW FOR SEVENTY-TWO HOURS...OUR RECOVERY AGENTS HAVE FAILED!
IT'S UP TO YOU GUYS TO BRING HIM IN! YOU KNOW THE PLACES HE'D GO...THE TRICKS HE'D PULL...
GET HIM ANY WAY YOU WANT...REASON WITH HIM...BUT IF YOU CAN'T...
IF WE CAN'T... WHAT, SIR?
THE WORDS NEEDN'T BE SPOKEN, GABE...WE BOTH KNOW WHAT THE GENERAL MEANS!

AND, AS THE TWO AGENTS DEPART ON THEIR GRIM MISSION...
NOW'S MY CHANCE! WHILE FURY'S STILL ON THE LOOSE...
I'LL CONTACT HEADQUARTERS AND GET A MOBILE UNIT OUT!

WHILE THE SHIELD AGENTS ARE HUNTING FURY...THE DEATH BLOW WILL BE STRUCK FROM HERE!
KEEP
47S!
THINK OF IT... THE INDESTRUCTIBLE FURY...SEEMINGLY DESTROYED BY SHIELD ITSELF!

AGENT U TO CONTROL ...GET ME SUPREME H.Q.! AND HURRY!
THE SUCCESS OF THIS OPERATION DEPENDS ENTIRELY UPON SPEED AND EFFICIENCY!
CONTROL TO AGENT U...YOU ARE CLEAR TO H.Q.!

AGENT U REPORTING TO SUPREME H.Q.! THE OPERATION IS GOING AHEAD AS PLANNED!
SHIELD'S BEST AGENTS ARE TRACKING DOWN FURY NOW...WITH ORDERS TO BRING HIM IN ALIVE!
YOU'VE DONE WELL, AGENT U! YOUR MISSION IS ALMOST OVER!
EVEN NOW WE HAVE A DISGUISED AERO-CAR HOVERING ON THE FRINGE OF THE SEARCH AREA!
WITHIN MINUTES WE'LL SNATCH HIM FROM SHIELD'S GRASP!
WITH FURY GONE, THEY'LL BE DISORGANIZED... DEMORALIZED!
FIRST SHIELD... THEN THE WORLD!
HAIL HYDRA! IMMORTAL HYDRA!
WE WILL NEVER BE DESTROYED!

AS THE SINISTER CREED ECHOES THROUGH THE SECRET SANCTUM...
AERO-DESTRUCT UNIT TO CONTROL ...WE HAVE A FIX ON FURY!
HE'S SHAKEN OFF THE SHIELD RECOVERY AGENTS AND IS HEADING UPTOWN!
HE CAN'T ESCAPE US!
EXECUTING POWER DIVE... NOW!
PRIORITY
AI
X
SHIELD AERO-CAR! ZEROIN' IN!
SOON BE ON TOPPA ME!
THERE'S NOWHERE TA RUN!
I'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
THE FOOLS ARE GONNA RAM ME WITH IT!
AND HURL IT LIKE A GIANT DISCUS!
IF I CAN JUST JIMMY UP THIS COVER...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

Second chance for high school drop-outs to get a diploma

Now you can

Finish High School at home

EARN A DIPLOMA IN YOUR SPARE TIME WITHOUT LOSING A DAY'S PAY

HERE'S A NEW, easier way for anyone over 17 to finish high school at home — with just a few hours a week of spare-time study. You don't have to go back to school — school comes to you.

This new, streamlined program is offered by Academy for Home Study. It was planned especially for working men and women who need a diploma to get ahead and can't take time out to go back to classroom study. It offers these advantages:

- *Full Credit for Previous Schooling*
- *Simplified Lessons & Very Little Writing*
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A diploma means a lot today — in prestige and in cash, and in greater job opportunities—increased job security.

Get the Full Story—FREE

Send for Academy's FREE booklet. It tells you how you can finish high school at home. Low cost, easy terms. You will also receive *free* a valuable Government booklet with advice for drop-outs, and a self-scoring test of your general knowledge. You may discover you are much closer to completing high school than you imagined. Mail coupon below today. Academy, 425 South Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

QUALIFY FOR A BETTER JOB
HIGHER PAY • GREATER SECURITY

$75,000 extra income in a lifetime

U.S. Government figures show the average high school graduate earns $75,000 more than the non-graduate. Here's what you can do with the extra money:

Live in a home of your own in a fine neighborhood.

Drive a new car, provide other luxuries for your family.

Watch your savings account grow — enjoy real security.

ACADEMY FOR HOME STUDY
425 S. Dearborn, Dept. 88-911, Chicago, Illinois 60605

Please rush FREE booklet on how to finish high school at home, also free Government booklet and self-scoring test. No obligation.

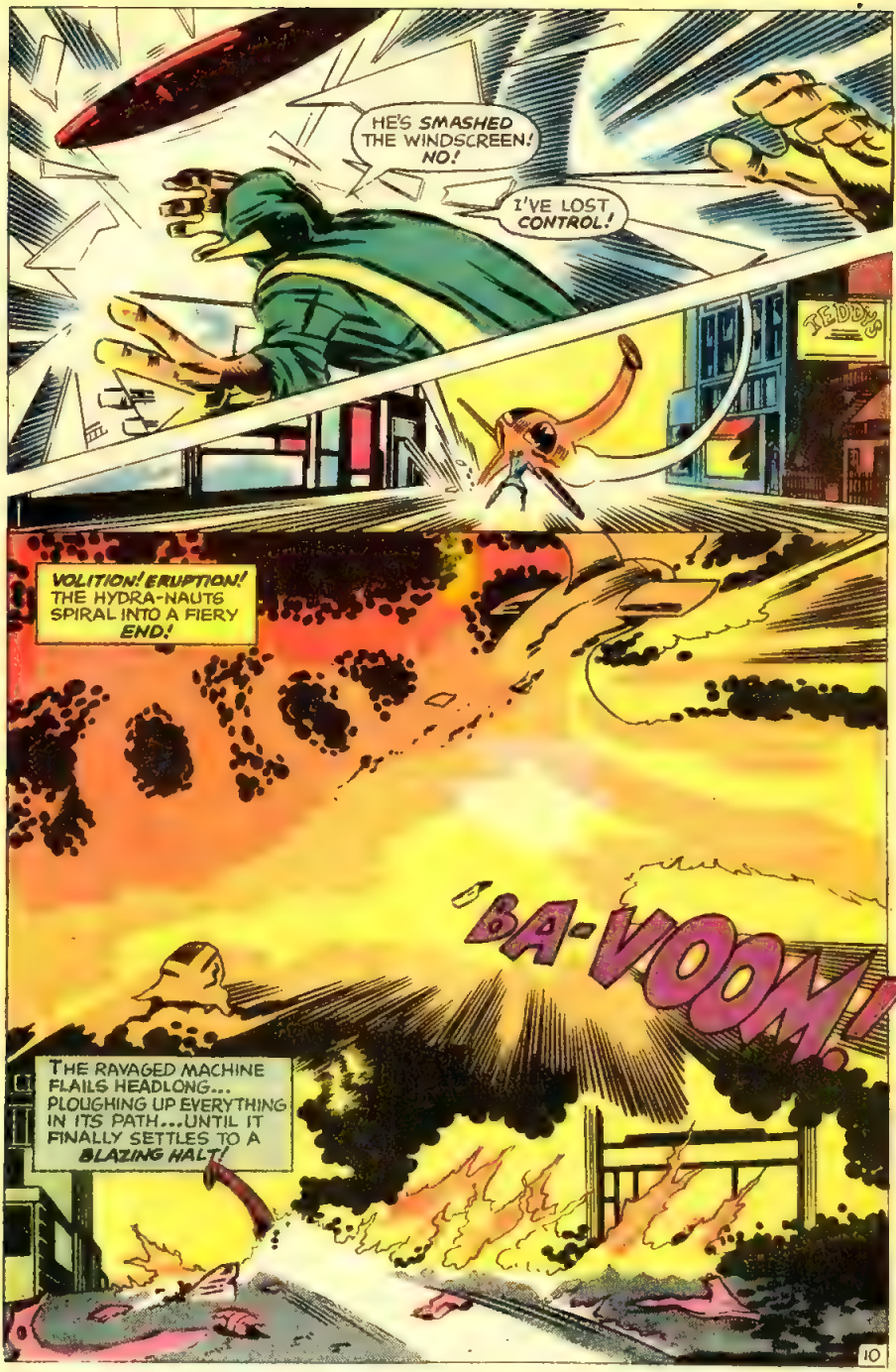
Name..... Age.....

Address..... Apt. No..... County.....

City & State..... Zip No.....

Accredited Member National Home Study Council

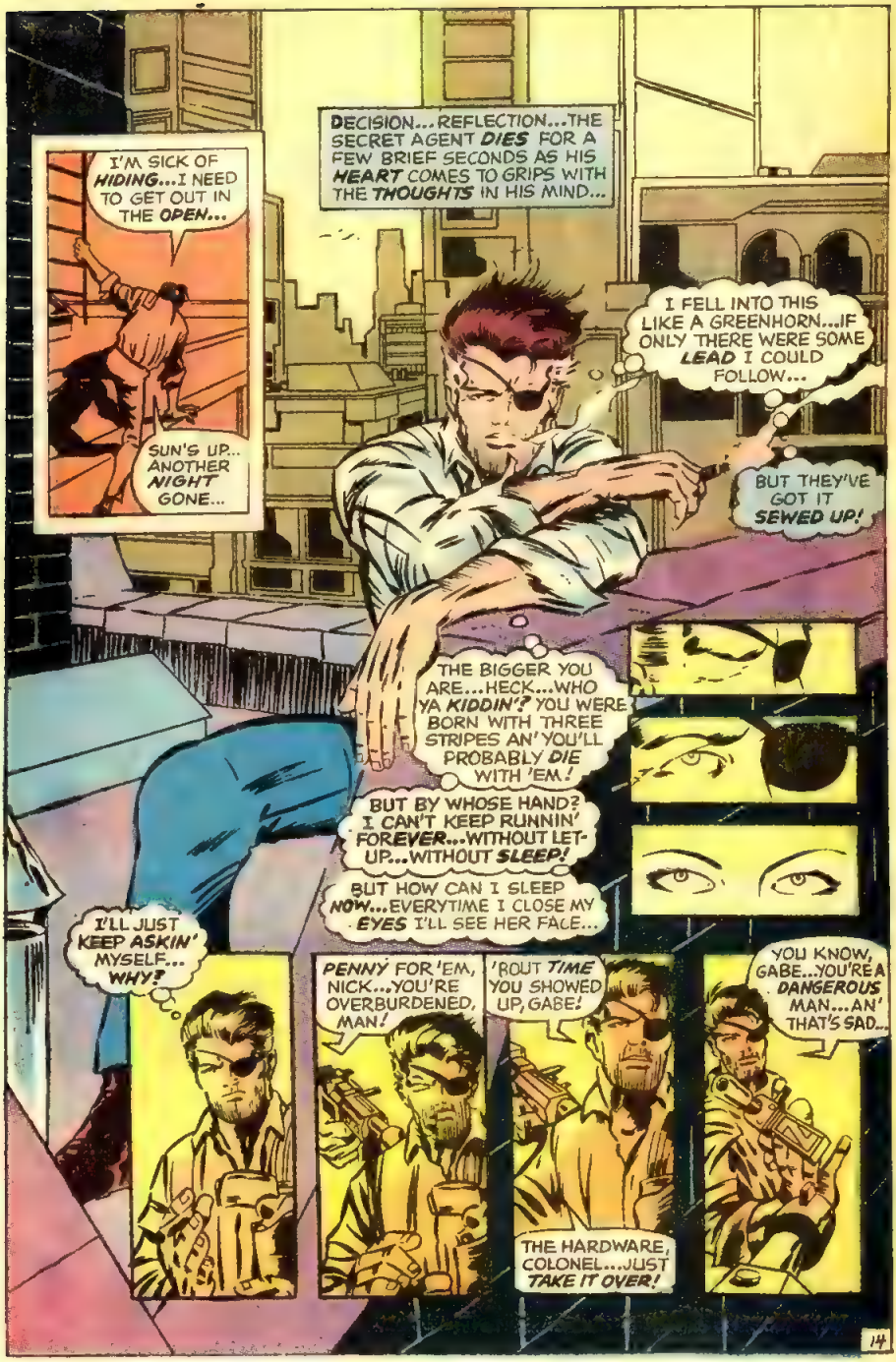
964


HE'S SMASHED THE WINDSCREEN! NO!
I'VE LOST CONTROL!
TEDDY'S
VOLITION! ERUPTION! THE HYDRA-NAUTS SPIRAL INTO A FIERY END!
BA-VOOM!
THE RAVAGED MACHINE FLAILS HEADLONG... PLOUGHING UP EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH...UNTIL IT FINALLY SETTLES TO A BLAZING HALT!

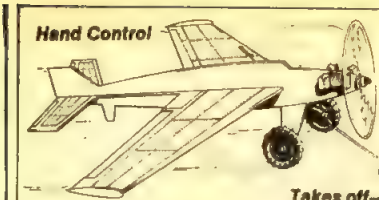
BUT THEN...FROM THE VERY BOWELS OF THE CITY...
A GROPING HAND APPEARS ...SEEKING A GRIP ON THE EDGE OF THE MANHOLE...
AND, HAULING HIMSELF UP INTO THE LIGHT...BATTERED AND BEGRIMED... NICK FURY...
WELL, I CAN'T STAY HERE ALL NIGHT!
I'D MAKE A SITTIN' TARGET IN THIS GLARE!
UNLESS THEY WERE AIMING TA BAT ME AROUND A LITTLE BEFORE THE KILL!
AND I FIGURE THE LAST THING SHIELD WANTS IS ME DEAD!
NO SHIELD AGENT WOULD PULL A CRAZY STUNT LIKE THAT!
WE'RE UP AGAINST SOMETH'N BIGGER THAN ALL OF US!
FROM NOW ON EVERY SHIELD MAN I SEE HAS GOTTA BE CONSIDERED A POTENTIAL KILLER!
AND CONSIDERIN' THE PLACE WAS SWARMING WITH 'EM ...I'D BETTER HIGH-TAIL IT OUTTA HERE!
BUT EVEN AS FURY STANDS CONTEMPLATING HIS NEXT MOVE... HIDDEN EYES WATCH HIS EVERY MOVE--RECORDING, ANALYZING... UNTIL HE WALKS OFF ONCE MORE INTO THE NIGHT...

NOW I'VE GOTTA SEE VAL... FIND OUT WHY SHE LIED...OR WHO'S MAKING HER LIE!
AFTER ALL WE HAD GOIN'...A GIRL LIKE THAT WOULDN'T COP OUT!
IF I CAN FACE HER ALONE, SHE'S BOUND TO GIVE OUT WITH THE WHOLE STORY...
BUT IF SHIELD HAS A GUARD ON HER...I'M DONE FOR!
HEY... REMEMBER ME? DON'T JUST SIT THERE, VAL!
I'LL THINK YOU'RE NOT HAPPY TO SEE ME!
NICK!
BACK OFF, FURY... THE LADY'S NOT FEELIN' TALKATIVE!
I SAID SHUT UP, FURY! YOU DON'T COUNT ANY MORE... UNDERSTAND?
WHY DON'T YOU LET HER DECIDE THAT, PAL?
WHADDYA SAY TO THAT, VAL? YOU HEAR THE MAN?
OR ARE THEY DOIN' YOUR THINKIN' FOR YA?
12

I TOLD YOU, FURY...THE LADY AIN'T TALKIN'!
TAKE YOUR CLAMMY PAW OFF MY SHOULDER, MAC!
SO IF YOU'LL JUST HAND OVER YOUR IRON...
I SAID BUTT OUT, MISTER!
I COULDA TAKEN YOU FIVE MINUTES AGO!
C'MON, BIG SHOT... THE PARTY'S OVER...
AND IN CASE MY MEANING AIN'T CLEAR...
MAYBE THIS'LL HELP YA GET THE MESSAGE!
STILL WANNA PLAY, HUH? THAT'S OKAY BY ME...
BUT I WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD SAY TO CHANGE YOUR MIND!
NICK...I...
SKIP IT...I GET THE IDEA...THE RIDE'S FUN 'TIL THE GAME GETS SERIOUS ...RIGHT?
NICK, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
THEN WE ALL GET OFF AN' FIND SOMETHING A LITTLE FRIENDLIER...
SOMETHIN' THAT DOESN'T HURT TOO MUCH!
YOU'RE RIGHT, LISTEN ...I'D BETTER SPLIT...
BEFORE ANY A.I.M. AGENTS JUMP OUTTA YOUR CLOSET!


I'M SICK OF HIDING... I NEED TO GET OUT IN THE OPEN...
SUN'S UP... ANOTHER NIGHT GONE...
DECISION... REFLECTION... THE SECRET AGENT DIES FOR A FEW BRIEF SECONDS AS HIS HEART COMES TO GRIPS WITH THE THOUGHTS IN HIS MIND...
I FELL INTO THIS LIKE A GREENHORN... IF ONLY THERE WERE SOME LEAD I COULD FOLLOW...
BUT THEY'VE GOT IT SEWED UP!
THE BIGGER YOU ARE... HECK... WHO YA KIDDIN'? YOU WERE BORN WITH THREE STRIPES AN' YOU'LL PROBABLY DIE WITH 'EM!
BUT BY WHOSE HAND? I CAN'T KEEP RUNNIN' FOREVER... WITHOUT LET-UP... WITHOUT SLEEP!
BUT HOW CAN I SLEEP NOW... EVERYTIME I CLOSE MY EYES I'LL SEE HER FACE...
I'LL JUST KEEP ASKIN' MYSELF... WHY?
PENNY FOR 'EM, NICK... YOU'RE OVERBURDENED, MAN!
'ROUT TIME YOU SHOWED UP, GABE!
THE HARDWARE, COLONEL... JUST TAKE IT OVER!
YOU KNOW, GABE... YOU'RE A DANGEROUS MAN... AN' THAT'S SAD...

I BELIEVE IT! NO L.M.D. COULD GET IN THE MESS YOU'RE IN ...WANNA TELL ME ABOUT IT?
LET'S FORGET THE POP-GUNS, HUH? JUST LAY 'EM DOWN AND TALK THE THING OUT!
'CAUSE I MAY JUST HAVE TA KILL YOU!
BUT THEY'D JUST ORDER ANOTHER FROM THE MOULD! THEY GOT L.M.D.'S THAT'D DO THE JOB BETTER THAN WE COULD!
WELL... WHILE WE'VE BEEN PLAYIN' WAR... SOMEBODY SNUCK IN WHO WANTS TO PLAY FOR REAL...
RICKARD... HE'S A COUNTER AGENT!
FOR WHO?
I DON'T KNOW... AN' I CAN'T PROVE IT... BECAUSE HE FRAMED ME!
OH, NICHOLAS, NICHOLAS... WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THAT LOVABLE SERGEANT I KNEW OF OLD?
O.K., WHAT'S HAPPENIN'? I FIGURE YOU MUST HAVE A GOOD REASON FOR DUCKIN' OUT!
YOU SURE YOU CAN TAKE IT?
WHY DID YOU THROW DOWN YOUR PET HOWITZER AN' TAKE UP THE WICKED WAYS OF ESPIONAGE?
TRY ME... THERE'S ALWAYS TWO SIDES TO AN ARGUMENT... AN' I'VE HEARD SHIELD'S!
WELL, IT SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AT THE TIME...
BUT RIGHT NOW I WISH I WAS THE HECK OUT OF IT!
YEAH... WHY NOT CHUCK IT IN?... LET SOMEBODY ELSE MOP UP THE MESS...
IS THAT HOW YOU REALLY WANT IT?



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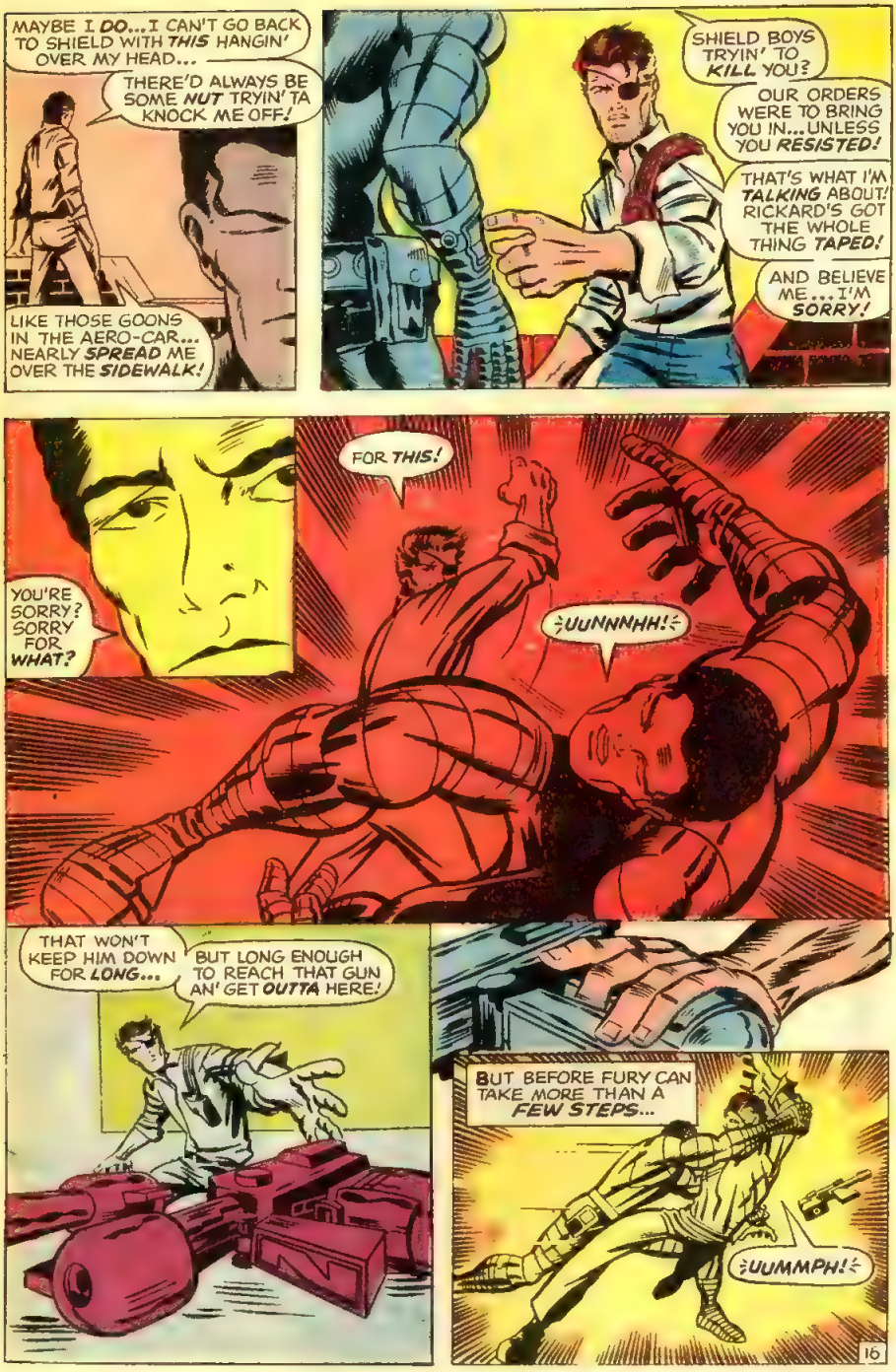
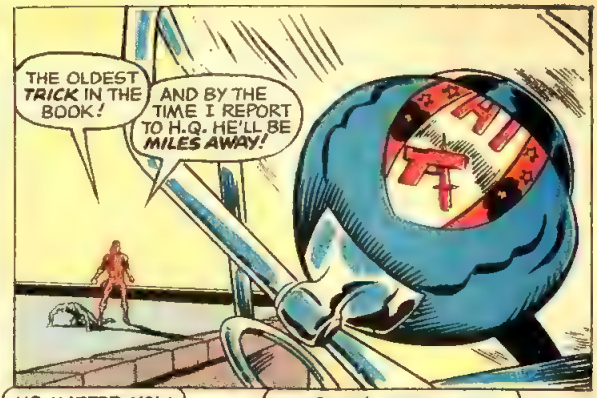
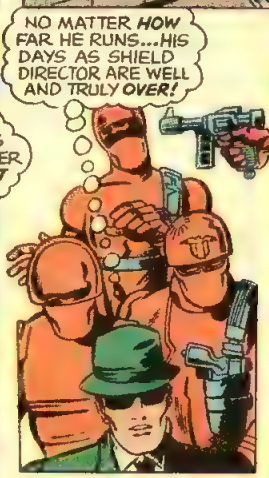
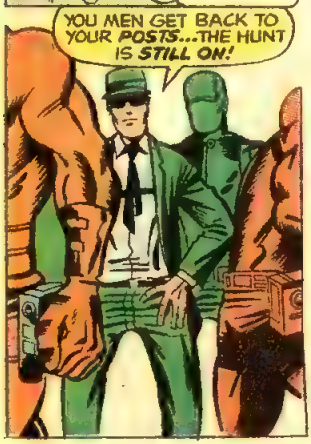

MAYBE I DO... I CAN'T GO BACK TO SHIELD WITH THIS HANGIN' OVER MY HEAD...
THERE'D ALWAYS BE SOME NUT TRYIN' TA KNOCK ME OFF!
LIKE THOSE GOONS IN THE AERO-CAR... NEARLY SPREAD ME OVER THE SIDEWALK!
SHIELD BOYS TRYIN' TO KILL YOU?
OUR ORDERS WERE TO BRING YOU IN... UNLESS YOU RESISTED!
THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT! RICKARD'S GOT THE WHOLE THING TAPED!
AND BELIEVE ME... I'M SORRY!
YOU'RE SORRY? SORRY FOR WHAT?
FOR THIS!
UUNNNHH!
THAT WON'T KEEP HIM DOWN FOR LONG...
BUT LONG ENOUGH TO REACH THAT GUN AN' GET OUTTA HERE!
BUT BEFORE FURY CAN TAKE MORE THAN A FEW STEPS...
UUMMPH!

AND AT THAT MOMENT... DRONING HIGH ABOVE THE ROOF-TOPS... A SHIELD GYRO-COPTER...
INSIDE... THE INSCRUTABLE JIMMY WOO... SCANNING THE STREETS FOR ANY SIGN OF FURY...
THERE! I SEE THEM! IT'S GABE... HE'S GOT FURY!
I'M GOING DOWN NOW TO PICK THEM UP!
GREAT WORK, MY FRIEND! A FEW HOURS ON THE HUNT AND WE HAVE HIM ALREADY!
BUT THE FACE THAT MEETS JIMMY WOO'S STARTLED GAZE IS NOT FURY'S...
GABE!
17



BUT REPORT JIMMY WOO DOES ...A REPORT THAT IS OVER-HEARD BY OTHER EARS...
WE HAD HIM IN OUR CLUTCHES ...AND NOW HE ESCAPES ALIVE!
FURY'S ONLY INCRIMINATING HIMSELF FURTHER BY RUNNING OUT LIKE THIS...
HE'S STILL JUST WHERE WE WANT HIM...BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP, BLUE SEA!





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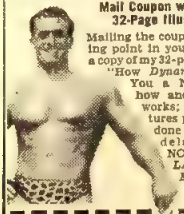

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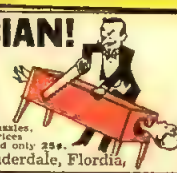

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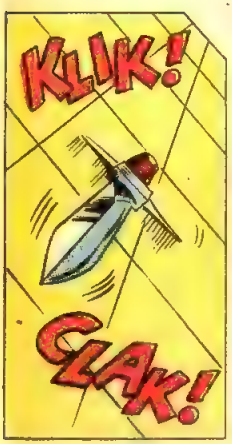
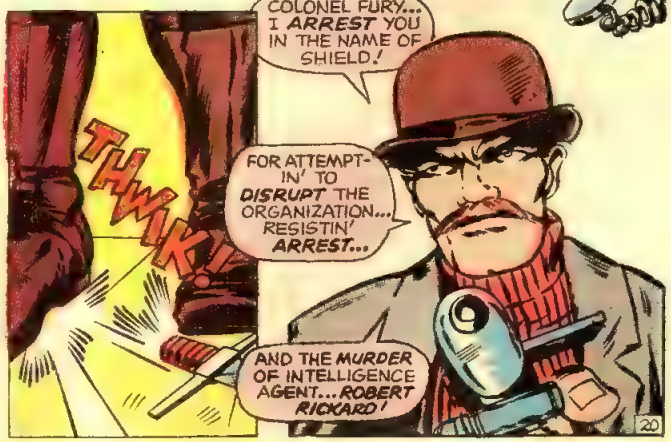
YOU! IT CAN'T BE! YOU TRAITOR! I OUGHT TO SHOOT YOU ON THE SPOT!
YOU'RE CRAZY, FURY! YOU'VE GOT NOTHING ON ME AND YOU KNOW IT!
I'VE GOT SHIELD BEHIND ME ON THIS... YOU'RE A SELF-CONVICTED TRAITOR!
YOU'RE TALKIN' TOO FAST, RICKARD... COULDN'T BE GETTIN' SCARED, COULD YA?
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT, BUDDY...
FIGURE IT OUT FOR YOURSELF, FURY... YOU'RE DONE FOR!
AND ANYTHING YOU DO TO ME IS GONNA MAKE THINGS WORSE!
IT'LL BE JUST THE EXCUSE I'M LOOKING FOR TA NAIL YOUR HIDE TO THE WALL!
BUT I WON'T GIVE YOU THE CHANCE... I'LL KILL YOU MYSELF! NOBODY COULD QUESTION WHAT I'VE DONE!
NOBODY BUT ME!
=AAAGGHH!= MY WRIST! YOU'VE BROKEN MY WRIST!
LAY OFF ME... I'LL TELL THEM EVERYTHING... JUST DON'T TOUCH ME!
IF I CAN JUST REACH THE HIDDEN SPRING MECHANISM UNDER MY SLEEVE...
SHLIK!

THE UNSUSPECTING FOOL! HE'S TURNED HIS BACK ON ME! USING THAT INTERCOM... I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!
SO THE RAT'S GONNA BLOW THE WHOLE BIT-- IT WON'T TAKE LONG NOW TO FINISH THIS THING UP...
GENERAL! THIS IS FURY... LISTEN... I'VE GOT RICKARD IN THE WEST SECTOR... HE'S GONNA... WAIT!
THAT REFLECTION IN THE TILES... HE'S UP! COMIN' AT ME!
THERE'S NO TIME TO WING 'IM!
ZZZZ-
ZZZTT


KLIK!
CLAK!


THWAK!
COLONEL FURY... I ARREST YOU IN THE NAME OF SHIELD!
FOR ATTEMPTIN' TO DISRUPT THE ORGANIZATION... RESISTIN' ARREST...
AND THE MURDER OF INTELLIGENCE AGENT... ROBERT RICKARD!

IRRELEVANT ITEMS OF LASTING INCONSEQUENCE!

ITEM! As these imperishable words are written, STAN THE MAN is being intrepidly interviewed for a zingy feature article about mighty Marvel in the February issue of EYE Magazine! (And if you dare to miss it — SHEESH!) But our leader better hurry, 'cause he's due to deliver a biting lecture at the Columbia School of Journalism in a few hours — after which he'll be winging his way south to Duke University, to "conduct a symposium or colloquium, teach a class, or hold a major lecture" as the irresistible invitation so delightfully put it! The only thing that's worrying the rest of the Bullpen is — where does Smiley get the time to write more complete full-length epics per month than any other man in history?

ITEM: In case we haven't told you, disc jockeys around the country, such as WWKE's "SICK VIC" ALLEN in sunny Florida, have been requesting actual scripts of F.F., SPIDEY, DR. STRANGE, and other Marvel masterworks, to record and read verbatim over the air. Sounds like a real glitzy kick to us — so be listening for them, hear? The way things are going, they'll probably start popping up all over! (And of course we're kinda proud of the fact that these radio pros feel the quality of our dialogue is worthy of prime time radio broadcasting with virtually no editing or revisions!)

ITEM! While we're at it, here's another nice-nice! The prestigious publishing house of Geo. A. Pflaum has recently produced a fascinating new book, entitled EXPLORING THE FILM, by William Kuhns and Robert Stanley. What has that to do with Marvel, you ask? Well, there's an entire chapter devoted to pictorial angles — and it features twenty full pages of SPIDER-MAN battling the RHINO as an illustrative example! Incidentally, author BOB STANLEY visited with SMILEY a few days ago and revealed himself to be another merry Marvel madman — as well as one of the best-informed and truly with-it academicians we've met since Honest Irv!

ITEM: Speaking of interesting visitors — and we've had 'em all, from famous director FEDERICO FELLINI, to prize-winning playwright WILLIAM GIBSON, to the master satirist HARVEY KURTZMAN — we have a new one to add to our riotous roster. So, say hello to ZIKA BOGDANOVIC, film, TV, and jazz critic for NIN, the weekly magazine in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. He's visiting the U.S. under the exchange program sponsored by the Ford Foundation. Y'know, it's a funny thing — so many scholars are spending so much time studying Marvel, that if we had any sense, we'd head for the hills — before they seal us in pickle jars! PAX ET JUSTITIA!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

NOT BRAND ECHH #13: The Simple Surfer soars again — Dr. Deranged scores again — while feeble Forbush-Man snores again! And wait'll you dig Auntie May's diary! The biggest smash yet!

FANTASTIC FOUR #86: This is it! It looks as though DR. DOOM has finally won! And then — we promise you the year's biggest surprise ending! (No, Irving — it wasn't a dream!)

SPIDER-MAN #72: A new artist on layouts! A great old super-villain! And the return of a guy you thought we forgot! You'll be "Rocked by the SHOCKER!"

AVENGERS #63: "And in This Corner . . . Goliath!" But it's a fearsome, fighting-mad Goliath you've never seen before — as our awesome Avengers undergo the most unexpected change of all!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay, it's time for our moment of truth! We know you were promised a new INHUMANS mag by this time — and we know you're still Inhuman-less! Some of you think we've just forgotten — others think we've changed our minds, and haven't bothered to clue you in. Still others think we didn't want the extra work. But, the straight scoop is — we started using a new printer some months back — (You've probably already noticed the vast improvement in the clarity and brilliance of our coloring) — but the printing changeover meant we were given a new set of deadline dates — dates which require our mags to be produced even faster than before! Hence, we once again were temporarily forced to abandon our plans for new titles until we could catch our breath. However, we're starting to get on schedule again, so maybe THIS will some day be known as The Year Of The Inhumans!

Honestly, we wish there were time for us to personally explain many of the things we do — things which are occasionally misunderstood or misinterpreted by you frantic ones. For example, we sometimes get angry letters, berating us for having taken a certain artist off a certain strip. Usually you, the reader, think the move was made because we simply wanted to make a change — whereas the actual reason may be totally different. Artists are often transferred at their own request, because they've grown bored with a strip — or because they feel they can't draw it as quickly as another strip — or because another artist is ill, or on vacation, and needs a replacement — or because we feel there is another strip which is more important for that artist to do — or the other strip may be less popular, and we feel that it will increase in popularity if that artist is given a chance at it. There are some artists who insist on a certain inker — and certain inkers who prefer special pencillers. Some artist/writer teams work better than others, and — in our never-ending effort to improve the quality of the mags you spend your hard-earned shekels on — we find ourselves continually changing, experimenting, and innovating — for, though we often fall on our trusting little faces, we want you to know we're in there TRYING every minute!

Excelsior!

Smiley

X-MEN #55: The secret of Cyclops' brother revealed at last! A battle to the finish with forces of the LIVING PHARAOH! Plus — the shocking origin of the Angel! Don't miss it!

DAREDEVIL #51: Yep, we've got another wild-and-wooly new arch-fiend for DD to tangle with — and when it comes to action — this is for you!

THOR #163: Few are the earth-shattering villains strong enough to battle the Thunder God — but there is such a one — the merciless master of menace — the revenge-ridden PLUTO!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #113: So, Cap is dead, eh? Well then, how do you account for what happens now?? And would you have guessed the origin of MADAME HYDRA? It's sheer spectacle!

HULK #115: It looks like Old Super-Villains' Month here at Marvel — especially when the LEADER, truly the most dangerous of all, comes back to life — to trap the Hulk, at last!

IRON MAN #13: The maddened, monstrous CONTROLLER is still at large — and even ol' Shellhead seems helpless against him! And then — but, you'll wanna see for yourself, pilgrim!

SUB-MARINER #13: Stunned by the seeming death of Dorma — battered by forces that defy description — this is our awesome, agonized Atlantean at his battling best! A must!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #13: Mar-Vell is confronted with a choice . . . gain revenge on Yon-Rogg, or save Carol Danvers from the MAN-SLAYER — and wait'll you learn his decision!

DR. STRANGE #180: This one starts in Times Square — and ends up in the farthest reaches of Infinity — as our magical master takes on the legions of NIGHTMARE! And if he loses — a planet dies!

SGT. FURY #65: The most senses-shattering war saga ever — and the simple, shocking title says all you need to know . . . "Eric Koenig . . . TRAITOR!"

CAPT. SAVAGE #13: The hard-hitting Raiders on special assignment in Europe! A weirdo title like "Junk-Heap Juggernauts!" What else do you need to convince ya . . . this one's a blast!

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #20: At last! The most requested new solo star of all — the one and only DR. DOOM! And talking about devilish foes — the fiendish Diablo returns! A collector's item!

MARVEL TALES #20: Who says three's a crowd? Nobody — not when that threesome is Spidey, Thor, and the blazing Human Torch! Another bargain-basement bombshell from Marvel!

MILLIE THE MODEL #170 — CHILI #1 — MAD ABOUT MILLIE #1 — what more can we say? They're fast, funny, and far-out! And, nutty as it seems, they're among Marvel's TOP-sellers!

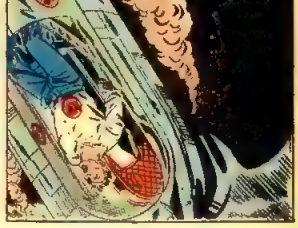
AND, STILL ON SALE

SILVER SURFER #5: The Stranger strikes! The Surfer walks the streets as a human! The Fantastic Four make a guest appearance! And that's only *part* of it!

COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #20: The fabulous F.F. — the ever-powerful Iron Man — and the dazzling Dr. Strange — in some of their greatest triumphs! Talk about bargains!

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN #4: Rawhide Kid — Two-Gun Kid — and Kid Colt, Outlaw! Three names towering above the rest — and all yours in one pistol-packed mag!

RAWHIDE KID #69: And now . . . the Executioner! The most popular western hero of all — in his most suspenseful shoot-out ever! This one you gotta see!



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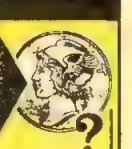

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DON'T YIELD, WRITE S.H.I.E.L.D.

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 625 MADISON AVE., N.Y., N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan, Gary, and Frank,
The last time I wrote you I was in the 5th grade, telling you how much I liked your Spider-Man. I haven't written to you since then because I always felt that my letters would be full of compliments about how great you've become, and that's not very interesting. What I'm writing to you about now has been on my mind since June when SHIELD #4 came out. SHIELD knocked Spidey off the top for me! To get to the point, I want you to know that I respect your choice of assigning Jim elsewhere, but now that he has done a few issues, I think he should go back to SHIELD. As I bought SHIELD #9 I noticed that this is the third in a row for Frank Springer. Although I think Mr. Springer is a good artist, I urge you to put Steranko back on the SHIELD that he took over and re-created in his own style. Jim, I feel, is not suited as well for a costumed hero comic, but rather on the SHIELD comic. Thanks for reading this, and, by the way, 'nuff said!

Rob Levinson, Salisbury School
Salisbury, Conn. 06068

Maybe for you, Rob—but not quite for us! Although we will be changing artists next month, Jim Steranko is too wrapped up in other assignments for us to go back to SHIELD at this time! But, in his place, we've lined up one of the most *exciting* new pencil-pushers to hit the Bullpen in a long time! We won't tell you who he is until then . . . but we will clue you in that, starting this month, Frank Springer will be peerlessly portraying the adventures of CAPTAIN MARVEL—and just wait'll you see the job he's done! We think we can safely predict that a great new era is beginning for Marvel's space-born hero . . . so be sure and catch it at the *beginning!*

Dear Stan, Gary, and Frank,
Nick Fury is the best if Jim draws him and writes him, so what's Frank Springer doin' a-messin' around with him? You know it ain't good for his health—like on page 16, panel 2—he looks like his leg is double-jointed, and besides, it's bad for his back. An' the inking was not much better. So let Jim do it as much as ya can. Momma Mia!!! For gosh sakes, if Jim don't do the annual, some boy's gonna git sorta mad! Well, I guess I've made you guys mad enough, so I'll skin out for now.

Darrell Newsom, 302 Alta Vista
Waterloo, Iowa. 50703

No need to do anything *that* drastic, Darrell! Just sending Frank a fresh supply of crying towels would be enough to keep us from getting *too* uptight—but we do think you're being a little unfair! Although we agree that Steranko is one of comicdom's great artists, we think Fearless Frank is right up there with him! We think that what you, and a lot of other fans who write the same type of letter as yours, mean is that you prefer one artist's *style* to another's! And, while that's as it should be, don't you think it'd be more effective to tell it like it is! In other words, instead of saying that an artist's work is terrible . . . just say you prefer another's work! After all, they're all pros—and if we didn't think they were the greatest, they wouldn't be working for us, dig? We hope this answer won't offend you! 'Cause we only mean for it to create a better rapport between us! After all, if you can't *rap* with us . . . then there's really no point to the thing we're doing!

Dear Stan, Gary, and Frank,
Yes; now that's more like it! I am, of course, referring to SHIELD #9! While the cover was only fair compared to #8, the inside was much, much better, beginning with the title. Page 6's background pic in red ink was good, too. And it's a relief to see that Frank Springer can draw a decent SHIELD aircraft. But we must proceed to the best part: pages 9 to 13. It's about time!! Even if the latter pages of this group reminded me of SHIELD #2, at least you saw fit to incorporate the Steranko style into the art. Which is commendable. I like! Perhaps the biggest improvement, though, is more colorful panels. Alas, you haven't yet reached the colorful standard set by Mr. Steranko, and perhaps Jim's brighter coloring just isn't your style. This, too, I must realize. Nevertheless, what I'd like to see is: more colorful colors! Finally, the story wasn't bad, considering that I'm fed up with escaped Nazi war criminals. Remember to maintain the highest quality on your covers. Considering the overall presentation, I must conclude that you're doing something right! But keep making it righter . . . !

Anthony Kowalik, 15641 Union Ave.
Harvey, Ill. 60426

We'll try, Tony—as long as Fury fanatics like you keep telling us what *righter* is! Fair 'nuff? Fair 'nuff!

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Q.N.S. (QUITE 'NUFF SAYER)—A FORTUNATE FRANTIC ONE WHO'S HAD A LETTER PRINTED

K.O.F. (KEEPER OF THE FLAME) ONE WHO RECRUITS A NEWCOMER TO MARVEL'S ROLLICKIN' RANKS.

P.M.M. (PERMANENT MARVELITE MAXIMUS)—ANYONE POSSESSING ALL FOUR OF THE OTHER TITLES.

F.F.F. (FEARLESS FRONT-FACER). AN HONORARY TITLE BESTOWED FOR DEVOTION TO MARVEL ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY.

Dear Stan, Gary, and Frank,
I have just finished reading issue #8 of SHIELD. The cover (I believe it's the first one drawn by Frank) was quite good. The rest of the artwork was average, except for panel 3 on page 4, the full-page drawing on page 10, and panel 6, page 14, all of which were excellent. The plot could have been better, and it wasn't as good as #7. I noticed that Frank seems to be imitating Jim's style. Whether he really is or is not—he's doing a great job. I agree with Peter Strupp—Nick Fury's zip-suit is really the greatest. Let's see some more continued stories. Ever since Fury's gotten his own mag, every ish has been complete. Normally, I would hate continued stories, but in SHIELD's case, it's different. In continued stories, you have more space to do things like a massive SHIELD attack (as in issues #165 and #167 of STRANGE TALES) and we could also see more of your supporting characters. (such as Val—whom we have not seen in any of Springer's issues).

Terry Black, 31 Buckingham Way
Freehold, N.Y.

As we just mentioned, voluptuous Val will be back in the near future—and, as for more continued stories, we'll chalk up your vote in favor of them, although our mail is running slightly against you right about now! Don't give up hope, though—'cause as soon as Groovy Gary comes up with a plot he figures will need more than one issue, you can bet your zip-suit he'll toss it in! (After all, even those of you who are *against* continued stories won't get mad if we have one every once in a while . . . will you? Thanks, tigers! We knew you'd understand!)

Dear Stan and Jim,
Forgive the greetings still including Jim's name in the masthead, for the heady mist of nostalgia and fond memories are hard in dying. They persist. They persist and linger even though there is no trace left to the wonderment of Mr. Steranko. SHIELD has seemed, recently, as the passing away of an old friend. One who gave telling moments in the span of your own life. Now gone. Forever. Hope, of course, like nostalgia, lingers. Even when there is no longer a cover by Jim Steranko. Hope that Steranko will, perhaps, grace one more issue. Will write, draw, color one last blazing masterpiece in tribute to all he created. Hope that Nick Fury will stop appearing to be a refugee from a Salvation Army store. Hope that the clever and creative page layouts will return. Not the imitation, flamboyant layouts such as graced "Thus Speaks Supremus!" Take page three, for example. Here we have half a page of four criminal assassins, all prominently displayed . . . and they have no involvement within the story whatsoever. Supremu$ seemed snatched from the pages of the Wizard of Oz. And Half-Man was no more than a reject from a low-grade horror picture. Should I pass this opportunity to comment on the appearance of Fatima? (Fatima . . . shades of Ahab the Arab! Someone's got to tell me this is a bad dream!) There were perhaps twelve effective words in this issue,and oddly enough they summed up, critically, the major faults: "You forgot one thing, pal! It could have been a lot hotter!"

Donald F. McGregor, 43 Wildwood Ave.,
Prov., R.I 0297

You're entitled to your opinion, Don—but don't give up on us yet! After all, like Sergeant Pepper would put it . . . "It's getting better all the time!" Or at least we *hope* it is!

Dear Stan, Gary, and Frank,
I will be frank, SHIELD #9 was pathetic. Frank Springer attempted to imitate Steranko's past magnificence and fell far short. And I don't like cutting an artist—because I hope to be one myself someday! Gary Friedrich's story was almost totally unsuspenseful and terribly Brand-Echhish (if that phrase is still used). He started to form some interesting objectives such as the brain bank and the return of the psychotron, but he never fulfilled the readers' desires to learn more. The story stops on page 17. The threat of the brain bank was nullified on page 18, panel 3. The Hate-Monger was killed in panel 4, his identity was revealed in panel 5—what a lousy let-down—and then in panel 6 we discover Laura Brown by a truly poor introduction for such a famous character. The rest of the story was totally anti-climactic—or in other words—all you really needed to know was that the Hate-Monger's place would blow up.

Owen Mahon, 518 Buffalo Road
Lewisburg, Pa. 17837

As you probably know by now, there was just a little more to it than *that*—and, if you don't, you'd better latch onto ishes ten and eleven on the double! Then, if you *still* think the yarn ended on page seventeen of ish #9, we'll be glad to listen to your reasons! At least maybe then you won't think the Hate-Monger's identity was a let-down! As a matter of fact . . . you might not even know if it is or not! (There! If that doesn't confuse you enough to get you going on those two past issues . . . we don't know what *will*!)

Dear Stan, Gary, and Frank,
My understanding of publishing has been that it is the job of the editor to oversee the art and writing of a publication to make it consistent, coherent, and credulous in the chosen style of presentation. Stan, in this case I personally charge you with a failure to so direct NICK FURY, AGENT OF SHIELD. Somewhere back in the antiquity of past artists and/or writers, we were promised an answer to the pulsepounding question, "Who is," and "Whatever Happened to Scorpio?" Months have gone by with that question hanging, and a new order in SHIELD art and scripting have ignored it completely. The luscious Val has been left in another limbo of unfinished storyline while another SHIELD team adds feminine interest with the insufficiently introduced Laura Brown. How the characterizations of our soldiers-turned-SHIELDsters have changed from swingers to squares to whatever personalities lurk in the mired minds of the steady stream of scripters! Grasp the reins and take the head of your fine team of artists and writers, Stan. Plot direction and development as a true editor should to once again tie together that vast network known as SHIELD.

Eva Jane Rohrer, 301 E. Monroe St.
Mc Alester, Okla.

We will, Eva . . . if you'll just give us a *chance*! A major reason we haven't tied together most of the points you mention is that Jaunty Jim Steranko was planning to handle them in CAPTAIN AMERICA! However, we've changed our mixed-up minds again—and in the next few issues, you'll be learning what happened to Scorpio, who he is, what's happened to Val, and about a zillion other titanic tidbits we can hardly wait to toss at ya! So hang in there, believer . . . SHIELD is just *startin'* to swing!

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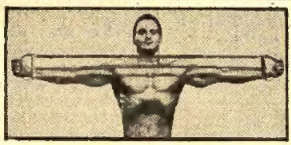

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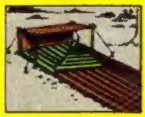
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